

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS


Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Claims 1-15 have been amended to replace the phrase "characterized in that" with "wherein" to provide proper antecedent basis for terms recited therein and thereby to conform to U.S. practice. Claims 4-12 have been amended to depend solely on Claim 2, Claim 13 has been amended to depend solely on Claim 1, and Claim 15 has been amended to depend solely on Claim 13 thereby eliminating any multiple dependencies and more clearly defining the Applicants' invention. In addition, the element numbers have been removed from Claims 1-15 in accordance with U.S. practice. New dependent Claims 16-18 have been added and are directed to elements previously claimed in Claims 10, 12, and 13, respectively. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is introduced by these amendments, and request entry thereof prior to examination on the merits.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4791-4004. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
Morgan & Finnegan, L.L.P.

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By: 
Bartholomew Verdirame
Registration No. 28,483

Mailing Address:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281 2101
(212) 415-8700 (telephone)
(212) 415-8701 (facsimile)